

**THE RHODE ISLAND CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DUNKIN' DONUTS CENTER COMMITTEE MEETING**

February 26, 2013

A meeting of the Dunkin' Donuts Center Committee of the Rhode Island Convention Center Authority Board of Commissioners was held on February 26, 2013, pursuant to notice at the Rhode Island Convention Center, One Sabin Street, Providence, Rhode Island.

Board members present were Bernie Buonanno, Paul MacDonald, Jim Bennett and Dale Venturini.

Also in attendance were Jim McCarvill, Kim Keough and Betty Sullivan, RICCA; Tim Muldoon, Nancy Beauchamp and Debbie Tuton, RICC; Larry Lepore and Beth Johnson, DDC; Dan Schwartz, VETS; Bruce Leach, Legal Counsel and Eileen Smith, recording secretary.

Mr. Buonanno called the meeting to order at 1:53 PM.

Mr. Buonanno asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January meeting. Upon a motion duly made by Mr. MacDonald and seconded by Ms. Venturini it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the minutes of the January meeting

Mr. Buonanno recognized Mr. Lepore and asked that he address the

Committee. Mr. Lepore presented the financial report for the Dunk. Mr. Lepore noted that January's net income was negative to budget due to unfavorable Ticketmaster rebates and increased operational costs. Mr. Lepore stated that year to date numbers continue to be positive to last year.

Mr. Lepore reported that the Providence Bruins and Providence College Basketball are both doing better than last year. He said that there is nothing better than winning to attract a crowd. Mr. Lepore stated that the P. Bruins continue to crank it out. He said that they are in 1st place and the Boston Bruins success is having an impact here. Mr. Lepore stated that hockey fans that can't afford or can't get tickets to the big team want to be part of the excitement. Mr. Lepore reported that Monster Jam had three sold out shows and close to a sell out of the Sunday show. He stated that Feld is planning to add another motor sports event next year.

Mr. Lepore announced that an agreement has been reached for the Wireless Fan Network. He said that Verizon and Sprint have signed on and Sprint is close to coming on board. Discussion ensued regarding the space for the venture and what it will mean for the fans and the building.

Mr. Lepore stated that the building is in need of a new sound system. He said that work is being done to put together a comprehensive RFP. Mr. Buonanno said that he has noticed the poor quality of our

sound system. Mr. McCarvill reported that the system was not part of the renovations because we understood that with new technology prices would come down. He said that has been the case. Mr. Buonanno asked how much we think this will cost. Mr. Lepore said approximately \$250,000.

Discussion ensued regarding the use of RICAP funds for renewal and replacement as part of the capital asset protections. Mr. McCarvill noted that the state is no longer required to fund the Convention Center's renewal and replacement and capital asset protection is an avenue that will address the needs of the facilities. Mr. MacDonald asked who we have met with and is the Governor's Office aware of our plans. Mr. McCarvill said that we have had several meetings with the Budget Office. Mr. MacDonald suggested a discussion with the chair of the finance committee.

Mr. Lepore reported that Mr. Bennett and Mr. Butler had traveled with members of the Dunk staff to Pollstar that was held in LA. Mr. Lepore stated that we will be exploring new opportunities that presented themselves from that trip.

Mr. Buonanno asked if there was any new business. Hearing none he asked for a motion to adjourn. Upon a motion duly made by Mr. MacDonald and seconded by Ms. Venturini it was unanimously

VOTED: to adjourn at 2:10 PM